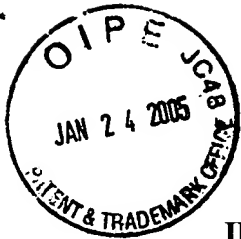


1Pw 2661



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/818,786 Confirmation No.: 1032
Applicant : Jacob M. Christensen
Filed : 3/28/2001
TC/A.U. : 2661
Examiner : Ton, Anthony T.

Docket No. : 42390.P11030
Customer No. : 08791

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed on October 15, 2004, with the three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on January 18, 2005, please reconsider the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and/or remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.